

I oppose Docket No. 02-277

I am requesting that you withdraw proposals for change found in DocketNo. 02-277, pertaining to broadcast media ownership rules.

Spokane is the primary media source in the area I live in (south Stevens County). The drivel that passes for local news from the Spokesman Review and TV Channels 2,4,6 and 28 certainly is a force to be reckoned with in the “dumbing of America”.

To me, as I turn the radio dial in the car as I drive within the 5 northwest Washington counties, the frequency of stations featuring Rush Limbaugh or Howard Stern or some fundamentalist preacher giving advise or interpreting events of significance is scary.

It is commonly accepted that the presence of a “loyal opposition” is necessary to keep government efficient and honest. This function cannot be accomplished without alternative voices within the print or electronic media.

Media goliaths such as Clear Channel which now owns over a thousand radio stations and Viacom Inc can increase their profits by improving their format in order to gain additional listeners rather than the cannibalization that deregulation would allow.

I will be following this matter closely. Big business as well as big government have never been in the public’s interest. When big business and big government, in the case the FCC conspire it strikes another blow against “government for the people, and by the people”.

Respectfully,

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